

STATINTL

UPI-130

(DOMINICAN)

WASHINGTON--CHAIRMAN J. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT, D-ARKMN SAID TODAY THE EXTENT OF COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN THE REBEL MOVEMENT IS "THE MOST DIFFICULT ASPECT OF THE PROBLEM" IN THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE'S SEARCHING INQUIRY INTO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC CRISIS.

FULBRIGHT ALSO SAID U.S. OFFICIALS WERE "SURPRISED AS TO THE TIMING" OF THE APRIL 24-25 COUP WHICH LED TO THE LANDING OF U.S. FORCES. HE SAID "THEY HAD EVIDENCE OF DISCONTENT AND THE POSSIBILITY OF A COUP," BUT "THEY DID NOT KNOW JUST WHEN IT WOULD HAPPEN."

THE ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT MADE THE STATEMENT AFTER A THREE-HOUR AND 15-MINUTE CLOSED DOOR SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE WITH UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE THOMAS C. MANN AND DEPUTY DEFENSE SECRETARY CYRUS R. VANCE AS THE COMMITTEE BEGAN ITS THOROUGH STUDY OF ALL FACTORS IN THE DOMINICAN SITUATION.

MANN AND VANCE WILL RETURN FOR MORE CLOSED DOOR QUESTIONING TOMORROW.

7/14--EG227PED

UNITED PRESS
INTERNATIONAL
JUL 14 1965

UPI-141

ADD 1 DOMINICAN, WASHINGTON (UPI-130)

U.S. AMBASSADOR W. TAPLEY BENNETT, JR., WILL TESTIFY FRIDAY AND ADD. WILLIAM F. 4-794., DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY WILL BE QUESTIONED MONDAY. BENNETT RETURNED FROM SANTO DOMINGO LATE YESTERDAY.

FULBRIGHT SAID HE HOPED TO DEVELOP ALL AVAILABLE FACTS IN THE PICTURE CHRONOLOGICALLY BUT THAT THE QUESTIONING BY THE 19-MEMBER COMMITTEE RANGED WIDELY OVER THE ENTIRE SITUATION. MUCH OF IT, HE TOLD NEWSMEN, CONCERNED THE EXTENT OF COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN THE REBEL MOVEMENT.

"THIS IS THE MOST DIFFICULT ASPECT OF THE PROBLEM," HE SAID.

THE ARKANSAS SENATOR WOULD NOT VOICE AN OPINION ON HIS OWN, AND ALSO DECLINED TO COMMENT ON WHAT EVALUATION MANN AND VANCE GAVE OF THE SITUATION TODAY IN THE CONTINUING CARIBBEAN CRISIS.

BUT SEN. FRANK J. LAUSCHE, D-OHIO, TOLD NEWSMEN THAT "IF WE HAD NOT STEPPED IN WHEN WE DID, WE WOULD HAVE A COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT IN CONTROL OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC TODAY. WE WOULD HAVE AT OUR OWN SHORES ANOTHER CUBA."

SEN. EUGENE J. MCCARTHY, D-MINN., A NEW MEMBER WHO WAS AMONG THOSE URGING THE INQUIRY, TOLD REPORTERS THAT "THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON DOWN THERE." MCCARTHY BRILLY OBSERVED THAT "I LEARNED THAT OTHERS DIDN'T KNOW" BEFORE THE CRISIS BROKE.

UNDER QUESTIONING BY REPORTERS, FULBRIGHT SAID HE DID NOT THINK MANN AND VANCE HAD ANY JUDGMENT AS OF APRIL 24-25 ON WHETHER HT E REBEL GOVERNMENT WAS COMMUNIST LED OR CONTROLLED.

FULBRIGHT SAID THE EXTENT OF RED INFLUENCE IS A "CRITICAL QUESTION" THAT "WE HAVE NOT DETERMINED" AND "I DON'T KNOW THAT WE EVER WILL."

7/14--EG30PPED

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75-00149R000200920078-7